

Principal's Report 20th September, 2017

Enrolments

1. Current enrolment is 340.
2. Current 2018 prep enrolments are 43, indicating we will have two Foundation classes.
3. We have at least ten new students commencing with us in 2018 from years' 1-6, however we already have 8 students who are leaving for a host of legitimate reasons.

Strategic Goals and Priorities

1. 2017 NAPLAN data to be shared at council meeting.
2. Teaching staff have commenced participating in peer observation program, linked to our strategic focus of embedding our instructional model. The peer observation model is aligned to the same principles as The University of Melbourne's clinical observation model.
3. Andrew attended a Principal network meeting on Wednesday 13th September to be briefed on how schools can implement the new EBA. Rhys to discuss what the new EBA means for Templestowe Heights Primary.

Staffing

1. Angela Makris announced that she and husband Phoebus are expecting their first child in March. This is the third staff member to fall pregnant this year, is there something in the Templestowe Heights water?
2. 2018 workforce planning now means we will need to advertise for two further maternity cover positions (which has a contract life of up to 7 years) plus a further one year graduate position for the 15th class. As it stands there will be 2xFoundation classes, 5xyear 1/2 classes, 4x 3/4 classes and 4x5/6 classes for 2018.
3. Daniel Bishop has been appointed to take over Clare Harding's class for the remainder of the year. Clare commences her maternity leave on 18th September.
4. Navaara Matherson, Vikki Brereton and Mary Wakefield have now been appointed to ongoing positions. This is in line with DET's new EBA key actions.

Professional Learning

1. Ten staff completed their level 2 first aid course with ex-council president Frank Perri.
2. Year level teams have continued to participate in workshops with literacy instructional coaches Chris Egan and Mary McQuilten in developing professional knowledge and reading curriculum.
3. Templestowe Heights Primary hosted a professional learning session on the **Ripple Kindness Project**, a social & emotional learning (SEL) program. This SEL program is implemented at several outer-east primary schools. For more information view the following website: <http://ripplekindness.org/>

Community Life

1. At the time of writing the biannual Art Show opening night is only a matter of hours away. The steering committee have dedicated a significant amount of time and energy ensuring this event will go ahead smoothly. A huge thank you in particular to staff led by Andrew, Clare, Amy and Joy, and the *Parents & Friends* leadership of Cath and Clare.
2. Approximately 30 parents and guardians attended a free workshop on Growth Mindset. The overwhelming feedback from participants is that the one-hour session did not go for long enough. We will be hosting another session in term 4.
3. We celebrated another successful 6th annual Writer's Festival. The event really did showcase the pride and talent of so many of our students as authors.
4. Father's Day breakfast on Thursday 31st August, was another great morning, held in the multi-purpose room. Thank you to the *Parents & Friends*, led by Cath and Clare, and supported by Andrew's hot chocolate prowess and a handful of great parent helpers, for making the morning fly by.

5. On Friday 8th September our junior school councillors, led by Jacqui Nicolazzo, ran a footy day. The lunch order option was a hit, with over 240 orders meaning that the majority of our students enjoyed a hotdog with sauce for their lunch. Money raised will go towards the community garden.
6. On Wednesday 23rd August all students in years F-4 enjoyed watching Templestowe College's dress rehearsal of their upcoming performance at the performing arts centre.
7. All students enjoyed a day out at our annual Athletics Day Carnival on Friday 1st September. As always, Kate Stacker organised the event to within an inch of her life and was well supported by staff, parents and guardians and TC students.
8. Kate Stacker took the largest group of year 4-6 students to Thursday's (14th Sept) Regional Athletics day at Doncaster Athletics track. While we had many students make it to the next round, the most pleasing aspect was the behaviour of all our students on the day and the way they were so respectful. The shone out from the other schools!
9. Templestowe College's Principal of the last eight years, Peter Hutton, has announced he is moving on at the end of the year. Peter has made significant changes to reshape the teaching and learning approach at what was a failing school with special measures prior to him starting.
10. A big thank you to the turn out we had on Saturday 19th August for our morning working bee. Over 20sm of sand and mulch was spread, as well as the community garden and chicken house cleaned.
11. In recent weeks we have had teachers, leading teachers and Assistant Principals from Milgate Primary and Antonio Park Primary visit our school to observe and learn more about our reading and spelling programs. This is due to our dedicated teachers and the hard work they have put in to developing our whole school approaches. It is great to see within our Manningham network we are establishing a positive reputation for high quality teaching and learning.
12. Manningham Mayor Michelle Kleinert spent the day at Templestowe Heights being ***Principal for a Day***. And what a day she had, particularly when it started with a free coffee cart.
13. A big congratulations to Ross Toogood and Clare Harding's 3D print-a-car team comprised of year 5/6 students Oscar, Brian, Ash and Sean. Our students represented our school with passion and enthusiasm and have made it through to the state finals to be held in October.

Resources

1. A quote has been sought to construct a wall in the middle of the library to convert it into two classrooms, ready for the additional classroom in 2018.
2. More information contained in Andrew's *Buildings & Grounds* report.